Acute Care Hospitals: Troubleshooting your CLABSI and CAUTI SIRs

We suggest that you review the [General Tips for NHSN Analysis](#) document before reviewing this troubleshooting guide any further. This guide assumes recent dataset generation and no 'Alerts' on the home screen.

➢ **CLABSI and CAUTI SIR general information:**
- CLABSI baseline time period: 2015
- CAUTI baseline time period: 2015

➢ **Problem #1: My quarterly SIR for CMS IPPS shows fewer CLABSI (or CAUTI) events and/or fewer device days than I have entered in NHSN.**

   Solution:
- Step 1: Check your monthly reporting plans for all 3 months of the quarter. Be sure that all applicable ICU and select ward locations are included in your monthly reporting plans for CLABSI (or CAUTI) surveillance.

- Step 2: Be sure that you have entered denominator data, both patient days and central line (or urinary catheter) days, for all ICU and select ward locations for all 3 months of the quarter. If no events were entered for any month, the appropriate 'No Events' box should be checked.

- Step 3: Run a line list of all infection events (in the Advanced folder) for the time period and infection of interest. Review specific details of each event to determine possible reasons for exclusion.

   o If central line= "No" on any BSI event, the event is not considered a CLABSI and will be excluded from the SIR. If mbi_lcbi = "Y", then the event is excluded from the CLABSI SIR. MBI-LCBIs have their own SIR report.
   o If urinary catheter = "NEITHER" on any UTI event, the event is not considered a CAUTI and will be excluded from the SIR.
   o Note that the "centralLine", "mbi_lcbi", and the "UrinaryCath" variables will need to be manually added to the line lists through the Modify option.

   o The CLABSI and CAUTI SIR output for CMS IPPS only includes:
     ▪ CLABSI events from adult, pediatric, and neonatal ICUs
     ▪ CAUTI events from adult and pediatric ICUs
     ▪ For both CLABSI and CAUTI, starting in 2015:
       ▪ Medical ward, medical/surgical ward, surgical ward, pediatric medical ward, pediatric medical/surgical ward, and pediatric surgical ward

CMS IPPS Checklist for CLABSI SIR: http://www.cdc.gov/nhsn/PDFs/CMS/Helpful-Tips-for-CLABSI-Reporting.pdf
CMS IPPS Checklist for CAUTI SIR: http://www.cdc.gov/nhsn/PDFs/CMS/Helpful-Tips-for-CAUTI-Reporting.pdf
How to Modify a Report: https://www.cdc.gov/nhsn/pdfs/ps-analysis-resources/howtomodifyreport.pdf